FASHION'S GOLD YEAR

THE COLOR WILL FIGURE LARGE.

LY IN ALL TRIMMINGS. CANVAS AND GREEN SILK THE LATEST.

Turqueise to Be a Feature of Beks-New Embroideries for Ires Fronts-Green Birds' Wings for the

(Correspondence of the Dimatch.)

NEW YORK, May 22. This is going to be a gold year. I have no reference to politics whatever, for we that court Dame Fashion don't care a cent who elected. What I mean is that gold is to figure largely in all trimmings for gowns this year. If you have a dess that you are going to have silver and gold braid put on, see to it that fiere is more gold that silver, or you will be unfashionable.

Woman has long been credited with an overweening fendness for a uniform, the result of the gold lace that makes it gorgeous. Now woman is to war that which she most admics, and we may expect to see semi-military ad seminautical costumes on all side. This will particularly be the case in the reefer suits, which are boun to be ery popu-For tailor-made dresses there are many patterns in blak braidedged with gold cord. There as Zoung's of every shape, kind and desch. Sone of these are cut in a point in the ontre of the back with gold frise appended, which

back with gold frige appended, which reaches to the war. There are galons with gold cloth own the centre, and bead embrodery gold as either side.

When gold is or in favor steel is. It is not only cloyed as embrodery, but cut steel by these and buttons and steel classes and lides figure on everything—dresses, was bodices, dress belts, hats and toqueand many of the new-fashioned, up anding coronet combs are made of disame, while steel ornaare made of the ame, while steel orna-thents are simuling diamonds. There is only one in about this steel craze. absolutellecessary to preserve the

The very let gown, the one which the truly faonable have endorsed, is of string coed canvox, made up over green silk, foundation and the skirt being quitelistinct. This opens to shiw a naw front formed of three flornees of canvax with a deep green ribbon hem! In, and the entire depth closely kilk three in the depth. The skirt is a hemmed in with green, while the flodies is draped across and fastened one left side, two shades of many and green mingling with the rollarband a the waistband.

Green ghallk is covered with black get gown, the one which

Green gisilk is covered with black checked cls, with a roleau in the hem. Thi accompanied by a cape of the same,t with an open square in front, heligether by two bias bands of black vt. a box pleat at the back, and the healtr cut in one with the cape. It has only to the ellow, and has a relationt two inches from the waist. Dodice is the most original feature of it is composed of printed moussi de sole, the ground cream, but littlen, and almost every color the pattern. It is made up, and this very thin, filmy enormous puffings to the s. 'Round the waist are of black velvet, held in by ntal buttons, set in with but not costly ornamenta-

f fawn canvas, made up on a, and bordered on the foot ork of narrow sliver braid. old to match. A high bodice f, has a series of waved, con-ties of narrow white insertion, from the shoulders and form-s down the front only a few art, embroidered at each end chand pink silk-certainly a simal bodice. The coloring of their newer than the old pink, a dash of flame color in it. th many of the new dresses rows all-round basques, these erally surmounted by a belt, gold or silver galon, worked insel thread or turquoise, or some many paste gens more liberally ust now than is altogether conwith good taste. The attention fashionable woman must be dithis year to turquoises and beauti-bleros, and waist belts of a grassy coloring are studded closely with In the case in question, it is most lift to tell whether the stone is green lue, the green foundation intensi-

of the most effective ornaments the hair that promises to be popular geason, is made out of two out-tried birds' wings of iridescent green, a small cluster of roses at their Rumor has it that the turban be revived. The idea is received with ided favor. Although this species of degear is not generally becoming, it delightfully convenient to wear. So I ak I can safely say the turban is to with us at least to a limited extent.

Moire is again to be in universal favor. se silken fringe which was wont to corate the black silk dresses in the den days is also to be worn. This tringe, which is half an inch in width,



STRIKINGLY PRETTY COSTUMES OF RICHMOND GIRLS.

1. Dainty rese-colored basiste Gress, embroidered and plain. The skirt of the embroidered material has three sources of the plain, surmounted by two insertions or cream lace set on the grass-ful curves. The holero corsage, in a single piece, has its lower edge curved and trimmed with insertion and narrow russles. Two pleated flounces set into the arm syces form a double bolero. The sush of white taffeta is printed with green leaves. Green straw hat with pink roses.

2. Tollette of gray-green veiling with sun-pleated skirt. The double bolero is worn over a fitted cuirasse of black taffeta. Three large, handsome buttons close the corsage at the waist. The sleeves have equilettes of lace tied in the centre by green ribbon.

2. White linen lawn over rose-colored taffeta, and trimmed with green lace. Rose silk neckbond and the string of the plain, surmounted by two insertions or cream lace set on the grass-full curves.

2. White linen lawn over rose-colored taffeta, and trimmed with cream lace. Rose silk neckband and belt,

this coming season are beautiful. Som on lisse and net are worked in the cor on lisse and net are worked in the corners with light foral patterns, which are made right and left, so that one or two can be used. In these, green and pink tinsel and pallettes of faint tone mingle with gold, sliver, and pearls, or something of that nature. The bodice trimmings for evening are nearly all of the stomacher shape, continued at the top as far as the shoulders. They are worked also in paillettes, jewels, and tinsel thread, so that the material of the dress shows in the interstices. The boleros frequently cover the back and are continued under the arms for high

we find they fairly smother us with ideas. Again, it is made evident that we can be both economical and fashionable

True Astronomical Meridian. Richmond, Va.

To the Editor of the Dispatch: I would be glad if you will publish the enclosed article. You may possibly remember me in connection with the Oysmember me in connectation member me in connectation ter Survey of the State.

ter Survey of the State.

J. B. BAYLOR.

Yours, very truly, J. B. BAYLOR.
On account of the vast interest, both
on sea and land, involved in a correct
knowledge of the laws which govern the magnetic needle, Congress has authorized the United States Coast an Geodetic Survey to investigate the mag netism of the earth in every section of the North American Continent and prepare magnetic charts for the whole

In connection with this work, the elements of the earth's magnetism have just been determined at Richmond, Va has been established, and marked with substantial granite posts, at the Reservoir Park, a true astronomical me-ridian, where engineers and surveyors The State of Maryland, in connection ridian, where engineers and surveyors can now determine the variation (declination) of the needle for themselves, as well as the index error of each individual instrument. The City Engineer is familiar with the

location of this meridional line, made of silk, appears on many of the present time, at the New Reservoir newest models in triple rows around Park, as determined with an improved tion for the twenty-four hours.
At this season of the year the daily

variation amounts to about 8 minutes of arc. The north end of the needle points about 8 minutes nearer the true meridian at 7 A. M. than at 1 P. M.

The annual variation seems to be increasing at Richmond at the rate of

about 3 minutes of arc each year.

The line of no variation, or the line along which the needle points true north, passed through Richmond about 1825, 1t has been moving westward ever since. The north end of the needle has been moving towards the west, at Richmond, Va., since 1812-you may say, since we have had very trustworthy observations.

Should a boundary line, a mile in length, which was run in the vicinity of Richmond, Va., say in 1825, with a sur-veyor's compass, be retraced at the present time, and these changes not noted, there would be an error in the location of a corner of at least 325 feet. Should this same line be run (at this

season of the year) with a surveyor's compass at 7 A. M. and at 1 P. M., an error in the location of a corner of at least 12 feet is possible. Engineers, by the use of this standard meridian, can correct many of these errors.

The magnetic dip and the intensity of

the earth's magnetism have also been determined at Richmond, Va. These determinations are essential to a systematic and exhaustive discussion of the magnetism of the earth as a

In the immediate future, similar determinations to those at Richmond, will be made at the following county towns in this State and an astronomical meridian, marked with substantial granite posts, will be established at each place viz., Accomac, Norfolk, Grencesville, Hali-ax, Albemarle, Shenandoah, Rockbridge,

with her Geological Survey, is establish-ing and marking similar meridional lines at every county seat in the State J. B. BAYLOR.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION. Farmer Gives Reasons Why He Will Vote for It.

Messingford, May 21st. To the Editor of the Dispatch:

The advocates of a constitutional convention at this time do not propose to impair the efficiency of the State Government by unnecessary or unwise economy, but the contrary. We believe that the present Constitution is not adapted to that unless useless officials and unnecessary expenses are cut off and a wise economy introduced into the administration of every department, as well as a more equitable system of taxation, that in three years the wheels of government will be blocked by an empty Treasury. Let see how the account stands:

1. We raise by taxation for State purposes about \$3,500,000-countles, cities, towns estimated about as much more, \$3,500,000-which is over \$4 per capita of population. This we might pes-sibly stand a few years longer if we are increasing at such a frightful pace that large expenditures will be necessary to make provision for these. The penitentiary, asyimms, and poorhouses must all be enlarged, moreover. In 1900, just three years hence, the interest on the public debt will be raised one-half of 1 per cent., which will require \$150,009 annual increase in our revenue to meet it. nual increase in our revenue to meet it. wheels of government from being blocked terest by the young Baptists of Virginia; Is it not time to begin to think about in 1900

on this subject:

From a careful analysis of the statisfrom a careful analysis of the statistics published by the Auditor of the State, as a basis for taxation, I find that the value of country realty—"lands, lots, and buildings"—in 1870 was \$27,732,94; and buildings"—in 1870 was \$27,732,94; city realty, \$185,571,619; city realty, \$112,456,521.

This includes only the eighteen principal cities, leaving out all other cities, towns, and villages—105 in number—with a population of \$3,250, and taxable property amounting to \$45,600,000, which reduces

The total increase in population for the entire State during this decade was 143,315, while the cities increased 156,528 inhabitants. Net loss in country, 13.213. Looking at the conditions broadly-to which the Virginia farmers form no exception-Mr. C. D. Wright, Commissioner of Labor, etc., who investigated this subject for the census of 1800, states that the mortgage movement from 1880 to 1890 the mortgage movement from 1839 to 1839 was progressive—from \$529,646,250 in 1889, to \$1,381,684,389 in 1889, an increase of 156.04 per cent, during this period. During same period the number of hired farms increased 42,30 per cent,, and the number of mortgages 29.54. It is this condition of 'ngs which has caused a regular stampede for a number of years past from the country to the cities. have had very trustworthy observations.

As a matter of fact, the styles quoted are not ironclad, and the would-be fashionable may vary from the idea in the more ring the same period-viz., from 1870 to 1890, our surburban population has in-

creased only 21 per cent.

3. These figures give some idea of the conditions prior to 1800, but if we are to credit the statistics published by the United States Government and standard authorities on economic subjects, changes and shrinkage in values have been far more startling during the past

No one who has observed the sales of

property made recently, both in the country and the cities, can fail to be struck with the great and unprecedented shrink-age in values. Numerous instances could be given of land sales, but I will confine myself for the present to live stock, as reported by public documents-e. g., Bullatin No. 11. Department of Agriculture, January, 1897. From 1893 to 1896 the number of horses in the United States was reduced about one million, while the aggregate value shrunk \$300,000,000, Mules 25 per cent. in value. In 1893 we had 46,000,000 swine, worth \$295,000,000; in 1896 we had 42,000,000 swine, worth \$185,000,000; number hogs decreased 17 per cent., value decreased 23.4 per cent. In 1884 the total value of farm animals to the 100 of popuin the United States was \$1,515; in 1896, \$2,451.

United States has doubled, the number acres of land in cultivation has doubled, the number of bushels of corn, wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, &c., have doubled, and the pounds of cotton, tobacco, meat, &c., have doubled, and the population has doubled, yet the aggregate value of the entire products of agriculture for 1835 was worth \$150,000,000 less than it was in 1870.

All of these facts should be pondered well by those who think we should 'set well enough alone," who believe that the lime has not came yet to talk about boundholders. time has not come yet to talk about framing a more economical form of government, because we "can't tell who will As things stand to-day, our expenses our present condition and wants, and time has not come yet to talk about control it," "because public sentiment has not crystallized on the suffrage question," diminishing at a frightful rate, yet the and because it will cost the State \$100,000, &c., &c., and times are hard and we can't

afford it. Yes, times are undoubtedly hard; all the conditions of life are hard, and becoming harder every day, because agricultural classes have been shorn of fully 50 per cent. of their assets; land, implements, and live stock have shrunken in sibly stand a few years longer if we could stop the invisible hand of shrinkage, which is all the time cutting the sand putable authority, which doubles the burfrom under our feet. But we are gravely den of taxation, even if present rates told that paupers, criminals, and lunatics could be maintained, but unless the ex-

these things? Where will you get the money from? The present rate of taxation amounts to confiscation. Property once considered valuable is now rented reduce the appropriations to the free for the taxes, and much will not bring schools, or the asylums, or the old solonce considered valuable is now rented for the taxes, and much will not bring that. The condition of the farmers of the State is appalling, and becoming worse daify.

2. But let us look at some facts and figures taken from standard authorities on this sake from standard authorities. other financial cataclysm, before we stop, it is useless to take the \$100,000 from the news and views. The columns of the pa-

the skirt and trimming the sleeves. It is also to be seen in decorative combination with creps du chine, and creps du chine makes many of the prettiest saskes when it bears a knotted silk fringe at the crease in the crease in the crease in the crease in the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points 3 degrees, 375-10 minutes west of the true north (the direction of the points and tramps? The penitentiary make provision for large and tramps? The penitentiary make provision for large and tramps? The penitentiary or stop the productive, and the true north the territory of the Southern Baptist or stop the production of lunatics and towns about \$\$150,000,000, as or stop the production of tunatics and tramps? The penitentiary or stop the production of the suppense under this condition of the suppense under this condition of the suppense under this condition of the points o Convention is to be turned over to the Southern Union. Each church or union is left free to affiliate with any or all to pay 1-2 per cent, more interest on our public debt as soon as the Legislature According to this agreement, the friction and strife that have hindered the work so much in the South are done away, can possibly provide the necessary reveand the greatest unity and heartlest co-operation should characterize the work from this time. What the work needs

6. If Senator Chandler is correct in his estimate of the shrinkage in the value of property in the United States during the past six years—viz., \$19,000,000,000 is for its friends to close ranks and press with all possible vigor a campaign of the disease which afflicts the body politi organization and education. it not confined to this State, nor is the cause one which our Legislature or a convention, either, is competent to deal agreed that every newspaper must be helped and encouraged to have the very with. It is neither local, sectional, nor temporary. If that be true, then it is a grave matter, and should not be passed over flippantly or pooh-poohed out of countenance. We should look the condibest Eaptist Young People's Union De-partment possible. I feel that the comtion squarely in the face, and prepare to general organ.

7. Senator Chandler called attention to Union would send fraternal delegates to the session of the Baptist Young People's another very grave fact, which expert writers or economics have pointed outviz., the inequality in taxation which exists in this country, and Virginia is not exempt from it. The professor of political economy in a leading university of the North calls attention to the fact that, taking this country as a whole, one family out of 100 owns as much wealth as the other 99, yet the 1 per cent. (the rich at the top) pay less than 1 per cent. tax on their property, while the 99, who own the other half, pay more than 4 per cent. tax on their pro

Now, I think, if the approaching Legislature has to elect a United States sena-tor, all the basement officers, all the city judges, and approve the school superintendents selected by Mr. Massey, etc. etc., etc., etc., they will hardly have time to consider and mature such legislation as will meet this crisis. 8. The United States Government, which is now taxing us at the rate of

gregate value shrunk \$50,000,000. In 1893 we had 47,255,000 sheep, worth \$125,000,000 in 1895 we had 38,238,000 sheep, worth \$15,237,000, a decrease of 25 per cent, in number and sugar, coffee, tea clothing—all the ne-\$7 per capita, had to borrow \$252,000,000 cessaries of life are to be raised in price and the conditions of life are to be made harder still. The argument of those who oppose a convention is that we can't reduce the expenses of the government. Hence taxes must be raised necessarily, When that day comes, "we will know then who will control the convention." 4. Since 1870 the number of farms in the It will not be the people who have got the ballot-boxes now and have dictated of this State for the past twenty years or this state for the past twenty years, Sugar-beets even will not save the grand old party. No, unless Senator Walcott will give us international bimetallism, and that very quick, we shall be brought face to face with an empty Treasury, and the wheels of government will be blocked and we shall and humiliated to submit tamely to the galling bondage which lies before There are some sparks of manhood and of liberty still left smouldering in their bosoms, which must be crushed out. Then we can have a convention, we will know then who will control it. But it will certainly not be those would-be guardians who do not think the people of Virginia are capable of self-gov-ernment. With great respect, &c., RICHARD V. GAINES.

YOUNG BAPTISTS OF THE SOUTH.

Ex-Secretary Jordan's Explanation of the Agreement Recently Made. This week's Religious Herald contains the following letter from Rev. Dr. John

You ask me to give you a few lines on the basis of agreement which has been effected between the Baptist Young People's Union Auxiliary and the Southern Baptist Young People's Union. I most

shut our eyes and go straight on to an- clate editor, and as much as a page of

lina; Messrs. A. R. Willingham Myers, and Vivian Myers, of Mr. C. R. Moses, of Virginia, and Professor S. C. Mitchell.

They will sail on June 10th from New York on the North German Lloyd steamer Barbarossa for Southampton, reaching London in time for the Queen's

Diamond Jubilee.

Should the Richmonders fall to see the Queen and the English grandees in the procession on June the 22d, yet the young men can be safely trusted to get their full share of the sights and experience of that historic occasion. Of course, Cambridge University and other places of interest in England are a part of the

of interest in Engand and a particular itinerary.

A pleasant feature of the stay in Paris will be the meeting with Dr. O. M. Johnston, of Leiand Stanford University, who has kindly offered to assist the party by his intimate acquaintance with the French capital.

The Belgian Exposition, which has brought together the civilization of many countries, including our own, will be a special object of attention during the

special object of attention during the stay in Brussels.

After going to various places in Holland, considerable time will be spent in Germany, visiting Hanover, Berlin, Dresden, Welmar, Heldelberg, and other cities. Many of the places connected with Luther and the history of the Reformation, will be studied with comformation will be studied with some minuteness. In Leipzig, Mr. Hudnall, an alumnus of the University of Virginia. who has been studying some years in Germany, will show his fellow-Americans the many historic places in that seat of learning. The Rhine and Swit-zeriand will receive a due share of atteation, while some of the cities in Northern Italy, particularly Milan and Genoa, will be leisurely seen. The party will then hasten through Florence and will then hasten through Florence and Rome to Naples. After viewing the ruins of Pompeli, which are of such interest to students of the classies, they will take the steamer for Gibraltar. From Gibraltar an excursion will be made to Tangiers, in Africa, to get a glimpse of Moslem life. It is expected also, that Granada, in Spain, will claim the travellers for a short while, in order that they may see the renowned Alhambra and get some insight into modern Spanish life. The party will return to America about the middle of September.

WARRENTON.

A Beautiful Dinner-Musical-Personal Points.

WARRENTON, VA., May 22.-(Special.) A beautiful dinner was given Thursday evening at 7:30 by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Assheton, at Rock Spring, in honor of their friend, Miss Alice Blount, of Baltitheir friend, Miss Alice Blount, of Baltimore. The decorations were pink roses.
There were fourteen covers laid, and
those present were Mr. and Mrs. Wade
Dalton, Dr. and Mrs. Shirley Carter,
Miss Alice Payne and Mr. Norman
Bevan, Miss Mary Welhy Scott and Mr.
Markham Payne, Miss Mary Randolph
Hicks and Mr. E. Astley Cooper, and
Mr. John D. Hoge.

Mr. John D. Hooe. Mr. C. D. Landale, of this place, who for years has been in banking business in New York, had the honor conferred upon him of being offered the position of resident representative in London of one of the largest banks of New York-He salled a few days ago to look into the matter.

Colonel Mosby, who has been here at the home of his daughter, Mrs. R. R. Campbell, since Monday, is improving steadily. His son, Mr. Beverly Mosby, who is a lawyer of Salt Lake City, came on and was with him until yesterday, when he returned to his processor. when he returned to his professional work in the West.

At the meeting of the Town Council

Tuesday night, in conformity with the State laws, the license on liquor was raised from \$25 to \$75; professional licenses were increased from \$10 to \$15 on lawyers, and on doctors from \$5 to \$10. On all small business places they

The committee that formulated the plan

Union Auxillary. There was no provi

sion made for such a fling. The ques-tion of delegation to all larger meetings

was left in the hands of the local churche

STUDENTS GOING TO EUROPE.

A Pleasant Party to Spend the Sum-

mer Abroad with Prof. Mitchell.

In the spirit of true education which

demands a first-hand acquaintance with

actual objects instead of the memoriz-

ing of words, a company of students of

Richmond College purpose to spend some

months this summer in Europe. The object of the trip is largely educational,

with special reference to history, socio-logy, and art. Regard has been had in

planning the journey to the pleasures

incident to such a trip; and, also, to the physical refreshments so much needed by

and the recent strain of the winter and the recent strain of the final examinations. The members of the party are Messrs. T. B. McAdams and John A. Coke, Jr., of this city, the latter of

whom is now studying law at the University of Virginia; Messrs, W. S. Me-

Savannah, Ga.

partment possible. I feel that the combined help of our religious newspapers means more for the work than any general organ; yet there is great need for the general organ; yet there is great need for the general organ; will be celebrated in Warrenton on Saturday, May 29th. Rev. G. W. Nelson will deliver the address, Dr. H. M. Clarkson will read a poem, general organ.

I have been asked if the Southern of true poetic merit and he will be received with enthusiasm.

Mrs. William Marshall gave a small musicale last night, at which she had collected all the musical spirits in town, There were present Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair, who have recently come from Chicago to reside here. Mr. St. Clair has and local unions, which are under control of the local churches. a fine tenor voice, and having much ex-perience in training large choirs, has been asked to take charge of the Episco-When I am no longer connected with the work officially, I shall maintain a pal choir, and has kindly consented. Mr. Robert Payne and Miss Annie Day, deep interest in its success and gladly render any service in my power for its promotion. I thank all brethren every-where for their universal kindness to me. with Mrs. Landale, and Mrs. Beveris Slater composed the rest of Mrs. Mar shall's party.

Misses Emily and Lizzie Fair gave 4 card party last night. There were pro-sent Mrs. John Beit, Misses Chui tie Nelson, Marion and Mattle Payne, Mac Payne, Mary Forbes, Landon Hicks, and Carrie Slaughter; Messrs, William Mason, Charlie Fair, Turner Day, and

Dr. Morton Douglas.
Dr. John Lowers, of Kentucky, is visiting his parents here, and will preach in the Baptist church Sunday evening.

Whose Pigeon?

Gilliamsville, Va., Mdy 21, 1897.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:
A homer pigeon came to my house this morning in a nearly starved condition. He was fed and put in a large bird-cage. He has a brass band on his left leg and a silver or nickel band on his right. No. 453 is stamped on the silver band.

Orders for printing sent to the Dispatch Company will be given prompt attention and the style of work and prices will be ture to please you.



1. This waist of thin, fine lawn with a pin-stripe in pink silk is mounted on a pink-silk lining. The yoke and centre front piece are of plain lawn embroidered and also mounted on pink taffeta. The sleeves are gathered to form frills of the selvedge edges of the muslin on the outside of the arm.

2. This very smart blouse of pale-pink, green, and heliotrope muslin has a swathed front that finishes in an erect frill to the waist, to which is added a cross-liste frill see frill.

I. Lavender-blue costume waist. The back is plain and with a seam. The ront is fitted by darts and closes on the shoulder and under the arm. The sep corselet of dark-blue velvet closes at the side with artistic buttons, mall believe of lace draped by blue-velvet rosettes. Plain sleeves with lace

2. Plum-colored cloth corsage. Three artistic buttons close the jacket-cor-Revers of heliotrope cloth epening upon a plastron of Scotch plaid tuffeta.